

FACSIMILE TRANSMITTAL FORM	Application Number	09/986346
	Filing Date	November 8, 2001
	First Named Inventor	Bowers, John L. RECEIVED
	Art Unit	3753 CENTRAL FAX CENTER
	Examiner Name	John Rivell MAY 03 2005
Fax: 703-872-9306	Attorney Docket Number	54135US011
Total Number of Pages in This Submission: 13		
Date: May 3, 2005	Attorney for Applicant: Karl G. Hanson	

ENCLOSURES (check all that apply)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form <input type="checkbox"/> Issue Fee Transmittal <input type="checkbox"/> Amendment Transmittal	<input type="checkbox"/> Petition	<input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences
<input type="checkbox"/> Amendment/Reply <input type="checkbox"/> After Final <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/Declaration(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert a Provisional Application	<input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Technology Center (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief)
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<input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/Incomplete Application <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR § 1.52 or 1.53	<input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund	
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REMARKS:		

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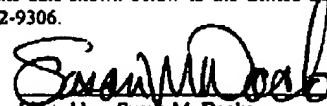
MAY 03 2005

Patent
Case No.: 54135US011**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

First Named Inventor: BOWERS, JOHN L.
Application No.: 09/986346 Group Art Unit: 3753
Filed: November 8, 2001 Examiner: John Rivell
Title: UNI-DIRECTIONAL FLUID VALVE

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Mail Stop: Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION [37 CFR § 1.8(a)]	
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being:	
<input type="checkbox"/>	deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	transmitted by facsimile on the date shown below to the United States Patent and Trademark Office at (703) 872-9306.
May 3, 2005 Date	 Signed by: Susan M. Dacko

Dear Sir:

In accordance with the continuing duty of candor and good faith that is to be demonstrated before the United States Patent and Trademark Office, applicants submit a copy of another Answer in the civil litigation between the 3M Company and the 3M Innovative Properties Company ("3M") and Moldex-Metric, Inc. In this lawsuit, the defendant, Moldex-Metric, Inc. has filed an Answer to a third Complaint filed by 3M. In so doing, Moldex has filed counter-claims for a declaratory judgment of noninfringement and invalidity of U.S. Patent RE37,974 to Bowers, U.S. Patent 6,843,248 to Japuntich et al., and U.S. Patent 6,854,463 to Japuntich et al. Moldex contends that each of these patents are invalid under 35 USC § 102 and 35 USC § 103. Moldex also asserts that all patents are invalid for "containing a specification and claims which do not meet one or more of the requirements of 35 USC § 112, i.e., written description, enablement, best mode, and definiteness."

Please contact applicants' attorney if the Examiner desires more information regarding the defenses raised by each of the defendants. It is respectfully requested that the Examiner initial and return the enclosed Form PTO-1449 to indicate that this item has been considered.

Application No.: 09/986346

Case No.: 54135US011

It is believed that no fee is due; however, in the event a fee is required, please charge the fee to Deposit Account No. 13-3723.

Respectfully submitted,

May 3, 2005

Date

By: 

Karl G. Hanson, Reg. No.: 32,900

Telephone No.: (651) 736-7776

Office of Intellectual Property Counsel
3M Innovative Properties Company
Facsimile No.: 651-736-3833

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO (modified) INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Use as many sheets as necessary) Page 1 of 1	Application Number	09/986346
	Filing Date	November 8, 2001
	First Named Inventor	Bowers, John L.
	Art Unit	3753
	Examiner Name	John A. Rivell
	Attorney Case Number	54135US011

U.S. Patent Documents					
Exam. Init.*	Cite No.	Document Number	Publication Date or Issue Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Doc. Number-(Kind Code If Known)			
	A1	US-			
	A2	US-			
	A3	US-			
	A4	US-			
	A5	US-			
	A6	US-			
	A7	US-			
	A8	US-			
	A9	US-			
	A10	US-			
	A11	US-			

Foreign Patent Documents							
Exam. Init.*	Cite No.	Foreign Patent Document		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	Translation (Check if yes)
		Ctry. Code	Number-Kind Code (if known)				
	B1						
	B2						
	B3						
	B4						
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	B6						
	B7						

OTHER DOCUMENTS			
Exam. Init.*	Cite No.	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published	Translation (Check if yes)
	C1	Moldex's Answer to Third Amended Complaint and Counterclaims (3M Company and 3M Innovative Properties Company v. Moldex-Metric, Inc., Civil Action No. 03-5292 MJD/JGL, United States District Court for the District of Minnesota)	
	C2		
	C3		

*Examiner:	Date Considered:
EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.	